

By: Price

H.B. No. 1603

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain powers and duties of the Palo Duro River Authority of Texas.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 438, Acts of the 63rd Legislature, Regular Session, 1973, is amended by adding Sections 3A and 3B and amending Section 5 to read as follows:

Sec. 3A. The Authority may:

(1) develop and generate electric energy by means of renewable energy resources inside the boundaries of the Authority;  
and

(2) distribute and sell electric energy to:

(A) an entity in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas power region; or

(B) an entity in the Southwest Power Pool power region.

Sec. 3B. The Authority may lease:

(1) the hunting rights on property owned by the Authority; and

(2) property owned by the Authority for any recreational purpose.

Sec. 5. (a) The Authority may not construct a ~~[No]~~ dam or other facility ~~[facilities]~~ for impounding water ~~[shall be constructed]~~ until the plans therefor are approved by the Texas

1 ~~[Water Rights]~~ Commission on Environmental Quality. ~~[The Authority~~  
2 ~~is not authorized to develop or otherwise acquire underground~~  
3 ~~sources of water.]~~

4       **(b)** The Authority may sell, trade, or otherwise dispose of  
5 any real or personal property deemed by the Authority ~~[this~~  
6 ~~Commission]~~ not to be needed for Authority purposes, subject to the  
7 terms of any deed of trust or other indenture ~~[issued by the~~  
8 ~~Commission]~~.

9       **(c)** The Authority may develop and manage groundwater on  
10 property owned by the Authority and may lease the rights to  
11 groundwater from owners of property located inside the Authority.  
12 The Authority may sell groundwater developed or acquired under this  
13 section to an entity located in Region A as established by the Texas  
14 Water Development Board for the purposes of regional water planning  
15 under Section 16.053, Water Code.

16       SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.